



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BEAUMONT DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

§

v.

§

CASE NO. 1:05-CR-53

TIMOTHY DEWAYNE TURNER

§

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND RECOMMENDATION ON PLEA OF TRUE
BEFORE THE UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b) and the Local Rules for the District Court, Eastern District of Texas, the District Court referred this matter for hearing and the submission of findings of fact and a report and recommendation pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§ 3401(i) and 3583(e). The United States alleges that Defendant, Timothy Dewayne Turner, violated conditions of supervised release imposed by United States District Judge Marcia A. Crone. The United States Probation Office filed its *Petition for Warrant or Summons for Offender Under Supervision* (doc. #54) requesting the revocation of the defendant's supervised release.

The Court conducted a hearing on November 20, 2014, in accordance with Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure 11, 32 and 32.1. Defendant was present and represented by counsel at the hearing. Having heard the evidence, this court factually finds that the defendant has violated conditions of supervision and recommends that such violation warrants the revocation of his supervised release.

After conducting the proceeding in the form and manner prescribed by Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, the Court finds:

- a. That Defendant, after consultation with counsel of record, has knowingly, freely and voluntarily consented to the administration of the plea of true in this cause by a United States Magistrate Judge subject to a final approval and imposition of sentence by the District Court.
- b. That Defendant is fully competent and capable of entering an informed plea, that Defendant is aware of the nature of the charges and the consequences of the plea, that his plea of true is a knowing and voluntary plea, not the result of force or threats, and that the plea is supported by an independent evidentiary basis in fact establishing each of the essential elements of the conduct.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

A. Procedural History

On January 30, 2006, United States District Judge Marcia A. Crone of the Eastern District of Texas sentenced the defendant after he pled guilty to the offense of felon in possession of a firearm and receipt, possession, concealment, and storage of a stolen firearm, both Class C felonies. The Court sentenced the defendant to 97 months imprisonment on both counts, to be served concurrently, followed by 3 years supervised release, subject to the standard conditions of release, plus special conditions to include financial disclosure; drug aftercare; and a \$100 special assessment. On August 24, 2012, Timothy Dewayne Turner completed his period of imprisonment and began service of the supervision term. On September 4, 2014, the Court modified Mr. Turner's conditions to include residing in a residential reentry center or similar facility, in a prerelease component for a period of 120 days.

B. Allegations in Petition

The United States alleges that the defendant violated the following mandatory condition of supervised release:

The defendant shall no illegally possess a controlled substance.

Specifically, the petition alleges that on January 16, 2014, Mr. Turner submitted a urine specimen that was positive for marijuana. He admitted to said use.

C. Evidence presented at Hearing

At the hearing, the Government offered the following evidence as its factual basis in support of the alleged violation. The Government submitted, in exhibit form, a signed admission form executed on January 16, 2014, in the presence of his Probation Officer in which Turner admits to having used marijuana. *See Government's Exhibit, Response to Allegation of Violation(s) of Conditions of Supervision.*

Defendant, Timothy Dewayne Turner, offered a plea of true to the above-stated allegation in the petition. Specifically, he agreed with the evidence presented and pled true to the allegation that he used a controlled substance in violation of his supervision conditions in this case.

D. Sentencing Guidelines; Findings and Recommended Disposition

The allegations, supporting evidence and plea of true warrant revocation of supervised release. *See 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e)(3).* The Court factually finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant violated a mandatory condition of his supervised release by using marijuana.

If the Court finds that Mr. Turner violated his supervision conditions in the manner stated above, this will constitute a Grade C violation under U.S.S.G. § 7B1.1(a). Upon finding a Grade C violation, the Court may revoke the defendant's supervised release. *See U.S.S.G. § 7B1.3(a)(2).*

Based upon the defendant's criminal history category of II and the Grade C violation, the Sentencing Guidelines suggest a sentence of imprisonment for a period ranging from 4 to 10 months. *See U.S.S.G. § 7B1.4(a).* Because the original offenses of conviction were Class C felonies, the statutory maximum imprisonment term upon revocation is two years. *See 18 U.S.C. § 3583(e)(3).*

According to U.S.S.G. § 7B1.3(d), any restitution, fine, community confinement, home detention, or intermittent confinement previously imposed in connection with a sentence for which revocation is ordered that remains unpaid or unserved at the time of revocation shall be ordered to be paid or served in addition to the sanction determined under U.S.S.G. § 7B1.4, and any such unserved period of community confinement, home detention, or intermittent confinement may be converted to an equivalent period of imprisonment. In this case, according to the records submitted by the Probation Office, Mr. Turner failed to serve 120 days of court-ordered community confinement time in Bannum Place.

The Fifth Circuit states that Chapter 7 of the Sentencing Guidelines regarding the revocation of supervised release is advisory only. *See United States v. Cade*, 279 F.3d 265, 271 n.2 (5th Cir. 2002) (citing *United States v. Montez*, 952 F.2d 854, 859 (5th Cir. 1992); *United States v. Headrick*, 963 F.2d 777, 782 (5th Cir. 1992)). Because Chapter 7 was promulgated as an advisory policy statement and there are no applicable guidelines for sentencing after revocation of supervised release¹, the Court may impose a greater or lesser sentence upon revocation. *United States v. Gonzalez*, 250 F.3d 923, 925 (5th Cir. 2001). Further, a sentence imposed for revocation will be

¹ See U.S. Sentencing Guidelines Manual, Ch. 7, pt. A, cmt. 1 ("At this time, the Commission has chosen to promulgate policy statements only.")

upheld unless it is in violation of the law or plainly unreasonable. *Id.* See also *United States v. Pena*, 125 F.3d 285, 288 (5th Cir. 1997) (citations omitted).

Here, the evidence and the defendant's own admission supports a finding that he violated his supervision conditions. The Court, therefore, finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant committed a Grade C violation of his supervision conditions by using a controlled substance. The defendant knowingly and voluntarily pled true to this conduct and agreed with the recommended sentence.

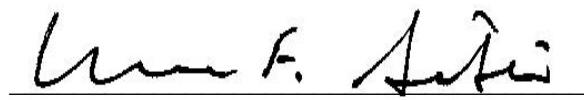
Therefore, based upon the plea of true, the evidence presented in this case, and the parties' agreement, the undersigned magistrate judge recommends that the District Court accept the plea of true and revoke Defendant's supervised release. The undersigned magistrate judge further recommends that the District Court order Defendant, Timothy Dewayne Turner, to serve a term **seven (7) months imprisonment** in this cause, with no additional supervised release to follow. This sentence includes the 120 days of unserved community confinement time.

OBJECTIONS

Objections must be: (1) specific, (2) in writing, and (3) served and filed within fourteen (14) days after being served with a copy of this report. See 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1). A party's failure to object bars that party from: (1) entitlement to *de novo* review by a district judge of proposed findings and recommendations, *see Rodriguez v. Bowen*, 857 F.2d 275, 276-77 (5th Cir. 1988), and (2) appellate review, except on grounds of plain error of unobjected-to factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the district court, *see Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass'n.*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1417 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc). The constitutional safeguards afforded by Congress and the courts require that, when a party takes advantage of his right to object to a magistrate's findings or

recommendation, a district judge must exercise its nondelegable authority by considering the actual evidence and not merely by reviewing and blindly adopting the magistrate judge's report and recommendation. *See Hernandez v. Estelle*, 711 F.2d 619, 620 (5th Cir. 1983); *United States v. Elsoffer*, 644 F.2d 357, 359 (5th Cir. 1981) (per curiam).

SIGNED this the 20th day of November, 2014.



Keith F. Giblin
KEITH F. GIBLIN
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE